



# Litter Picks

Electronic Newsletter

May-June 2007

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

**P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218.** (804) 698-4055 Fax (804) 698-4224.

DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

**Please note our new P.O. Box and Zip Code.**

*Welcome to Litter Picks, a look at litter prevention news in the Commonwealth and across the nation. We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related to litter prevention and awareness. Let us know by sending this information to Sheila Barnett at [smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov).*

## Approximately 1,000 Inoperable Vehicles Removed from Louisa County since January 1, 2007

On January 1, 2007, Louisa County implemented an ordinance which allowed property owners no more than three inoperable vehicles on their property.

The ordinance defines an inoperable vehicle as any car, truck, RV, bus, motorcycle or trailer that is:

- ✓ Not in working order, or
- ✓ In a state of partial or complete disassembly for more than six months.

Up to three junk cars are permitted on a property if they are shielded or screened so that they aren't visible from a public right-of-way. Towing companies offer free pick up of junk cars to residents.

Property owners are notified in writing that they are in violation of the ordinance; so many of the junk car owners have contacted the towing companies to come to get their inoperable vehicles because they want to avoid the penalty for non-compliance with the ordinance. To view Louisa's ordinance, go to:

<http://www.louisacounty.com/LCbos/ordinances.htm#>

Darren Coffey and Jason Pauley will be glad to discuss the implementation and the success of the inoperable vehicle program with interested parties. Their contact information is (540) 967-0401 or [dcoffey@louisa.org](mailto:dcoffey@louisa.org) and [jpauley@louisa.org](mailto:jpauley@louisa.org).

If a local government initiates the removal of inoperable vehicles from properties, and the government works with the DMV, the local government is eligible to count the removed cars on their recycling rate report. The Inoperable Vehicle Contact at the DMV is Billie Vaughn and her contact information is: (804) 367-0670 or [billie.vaughn@dmv.virginia.gov](mailto:billie.vaughn@dmv.virginia.gov)

## Clean the Bay Day

Clean the Bay Day was held on June 2, 2007. Nearly 6,000 people helped to clean 275 miles of streams that empty into the Bay. Clean ups took place in Hampton Roads to the Eastern Shore, and in Northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley. There were 179 official cleanup sites. Approximately 82 tons of litter and debris was removed from the waterways. Contact Sharon Smith at [ctbd@cbf.org](mailto:ctbd@cbf.org) or go to:

[http://www.cbf.org/site/News2?abbr=SB\\_News\\_&page=NewsArticle&id=26707](http://www.cbf.org/site/News2?abbr=SB_News_&page=NewsArticle&id=26707)

## Did You Know?

- ✓ The application to apply for FY 2008 litter and Recycling grants is available by going to <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/forms.html>. The application **MUST** be postmarked by **June 30, 2007** in order to qualify for grant funds. The Performance and Accounting report **MUST** be postmarked by **August 31, 2007** to qualify for grant funding.
- ✓ Alabama is considering the implementation of the Assign-a-Highway Program after noting the success that the program has had in some Virginia localities. Contact Bobby Justus at (276) 628-1600 or [bjustus\\_assignahighway@yahoo.com](mailto:bjustus_assignahighway@yahoo.com)

## Extreme Stream Makeover

Volunteers in **Colonial Heights** are striving to give Oldtown Creek an "extreme stream makeover." The makeover included collecting trash implementing other means to keep pollution out of the stream when it rains.

The James River Association is coordinating this project. Contact Bill Street, the Director of the James River Association at (804) 730-2898 or [jstreet@jrava.org](mailto:jstreet@jrava.org).

The James River Association website also has information about how to keep watersheds from becoming polluted. For more information, go to:

<http://www.jamesriverassociation.org>

## James River Regional Cleanup

The James River Advisory Council sponsored the eighth annual James River Regional Cleanup on Saturday, June 9, 2007.

More than 750 volunteers picked up litter along the banks of the James River. Official clean up sites were located in Appomattox, Buckingham, Charles City, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Goochland, Henrico and Powhatan Counties. Volunteers collected 572 bags of litter, and 187 bags of recyclable materials, and sixty-seven tires.

Visit the JRAC website at [www.jamesriveradvisorycouncil.com](http://www.jamesriveradvisorycouncil.com) or call Kimberly Conley, Executive Director at (804) 748-1567.

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